

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A spore germinant produced by IC-21 macrophages.
2. A method for producing one or more germinants from IC-21 macrophages,  
5 comprising the steps of:  
providing IC-21 macrophages;  
adding spores to the provided IC-21 macrophages effective to produce germinant.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the added spores to the IC-21 macrophages occurs in  
10 solution.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of filtering the produced  
germinant from solution
- 15 5. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of adding spores occurs in a ratio amount of  
from about 100:1 to about 1:100, spores to macrophage.

6. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of adding spores occurs in a ratio amount of from about 10:1 to about 1:10, spores to macrophage.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of adding spores occurs in a ratio amount of from about 1:1 to about 1:1, spores to macrophage.
8. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of filtering comprises a filter of from about 0.2 micrometers or less.
- 10 9. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of concentrating the filtered germinant.
10. The spore germinant product produced by the process of claim 2
- 15 11. A method for germinating spores, comprising the steps of:  
providing one or more germinants from IC-21 macrophages; and,  
applying the germinants to spores effective to cause germination.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of providing one or more germinants comprises endospores of the *Bacillus* species.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of providing one or more germinants comprises endospores of the *Bacillus globigii*.  
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14. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of applying the germinants comprises application to spores of the same spore class as used to produce germinant.
- 10 15. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of applying the germinants comprises application to spores of a different spore class as used to produce germinant.
16. The method of claim 11, wherein the spores comprise endospores.
- 15 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the endospores comprise *Bacillus* species.
18. The method of claim 17, wherein the endospores comprise *Bacillus globigii*.

19. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of applying the germinants comprises a germinant composition with germinant present in an amount of from about  $1 \times 10^{12}$  mg/L to about  $1 \times 10^{-12}$  mg/L.

5 20. A non-pathogenic bacteria strain spore germinant.